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Compton Man Sentenced to Prison for Killing Young Niece in 2010

A 29-year-old Compton man convicted of fatally stabbing his niece and hiding her body in a closet was sentenced today to 31 years to life in state prison, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

On Feb. 20, a jury found Julian Carter (dob 5/6/85) guilty of second-degree murder in case TA112779. In the sanity phase of the trial, jurors also found that the defendant was sane when he killed the girl.

Deputy District Attorney Emily Spear, who prosecuted the case, said at the time of the killing, Carter and his 5-year-old niece, Mireya McCall, lived with other family members at a home in Compton.

Evidence presented at trial revealed that in the early morning of June 13, 2010, Carter armed himself with a knife, stabbed his niece in the throat, put her body in a bag, and concealed the bag in a closet.

The defendant then took the knife, wrapped it in clothing and hid it under his bed, the prosecutor said. He subsequently left the scene.

At some point, the child's mother realized she was missing and called law enforcement. The family also noticed that Carter had gone missing and alerted authorities to his disappearance.

Sheriff Deputies arrived at the home, conducted a search and found the girl's body in the closet, according to the prosecutor. Soon after, authorities located Carter in the street and arrested him connection with the girl's killing.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office prosecuted more than 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.